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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/522,669	01/12/2006	Naoki Matsuyama	Q85994	8583
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JOYCE, WILLIAM C				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/522,669

Applicant(s)

MATSUYAMA ET AL.

Examiner

William C. Joyce

Art Unit

3656

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/88)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

- a. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 1.
- b. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 2.
- c. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 3.
- d. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 4.
- e. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 5.
- f. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 6.
- g. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 7.
- h. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 8.
- i. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 9.
- j. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 10.
- k. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 11.
- l. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 12.
- m. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 13.
- n. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 14.
- o. The spindle of Figure 16 in combination with the bearing of Figure 15.
- p. The spindle of Figure 17 in combination with the bearing of Figure 18.
- q. The spindle of Figure 17 in combination with the bearing of Figure 19.
- r. The spindle of Figure 17 in combination with the bearing of Figure 20.
- s. The spindle of Figure 17 in combination with the bearing of Figure 21.
- t. The spindle of Figure 17 in combination with the bearing of Figure 22.
- u. The spindle of Figure 17 in combination with the bearing of Figure 23.
- v. The spindle of Figure 17 in combination with the bearing of Figure 24.

- w. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 27.
- x. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 28.
- y. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 29.
- z. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 30.
- aa. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 31.
- bb. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 32.
- cc. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 33.
- dd. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 34.
- ee. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 35.
- ff. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 36.
- gg. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 37.
- hh. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 38.
- ii. The bearing arrangement of Figure 39a.
- jj. The bearing arrangement of Figure 39b.
- kk. The bearing arrangement of Figure 39c.
- ll. The bearing arrangement of Figure 39d.
- mm. The bearing arrangement of Figure 39e.
- nn. The bearing arrangement of Figure 39f.
- oo. The bearing arrangement of Figure 40.
- pp. The bearing and spindle arrangement of Figure 41.
- qq. The grease supply system of Figures 41-45.
- rr. The grease supply system of Figures 46-47.
- ss. The grease supply system of Figures 48.
- tt. The grease supply system of Figures 49-55.
- uu. The grease supply system of Figures 56-60.
- vv. The grease supply system of Figures 61-63.
- ww. The grease supply system of Figures 64-66.
- xx. The grease supply system of Figures 67-70.
- yy. The grease supply system of Figures 71.
- zz. The grease supply system of Figures 72.

- aaa. The grease supply system of Figures 73.
- bbb. The grease supply system of Figures 74.
- ccc. The grease supply system of Figures 75.
- ddd. The grease supply system of Figures 76.
- eee. The grease supply system of Figures 77-78.
- fff. The grease supply system of Figures 79.
- ggg. The grease supply system of Figures 80.
- hhh. The grease supply system of Figures 81.
- iii. The grease supply system of Figures 82.
- jjj. The grease supply system of Figures 83.
- kkk. The grease supply system of Figures 93-94.
- lll. The grease supply system of Figures 95.
- mmm. The grease supply system of Figures 96.
- nnn. The grease supply system of Figures 97.
- ooo. The grease supply system of Figures 98.
- ppp. The grease supply system of Figures 99.
- qqq. The grease supply system of Figures 102-103.
- rrr. The grease supply system of Figures 104-105.
- sss. The grease supply system of Figures 106.
- ttt. The grease supply system of Figures 107.
- uuu. The grease supply system of Figures 108.
- vvv. The grease supply system of Figures 109.
- www. The grease supply system of Figures 110.
- xxx. The grease supply system of Figures 111.

Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims

subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

The following claim(s) are generic: no claim appears generic.

The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Claim 1 does not appear to contain a general inventive concept. For example, the prior art to JP 2002-130590 discloses means for supplying a predetermined amount of lubricant to a bearing. Further, it would have been within the skill of one in the bearing art to optimize the amount of lubricant to a running bearing so as to lubricate the bearing without consuming excessive lubricant.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William C. Joyce whose telephone number is (571) 272-7107. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on (571) 272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William C. Joyce/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3656